

Tehillim / Psalms 17

①

Psalms 17:1 "A prayer of David. Hear a just cause, O Lord, give heed to my cry; give ear to my prayer, which is not from deceitful lips." NASB

17:2 "Let my judgment come forth from Your presence; let your eyes look with equity."

- David calls for judgment to come forth from the Lord.

Questions

- why does David request judgment to come forth from God?
- Is there anything significant about this request?
- In Christ, do we need to worry about God's judgment? (are there different types of judgment?)

2 Peter 3:7-18

- Heaven & Earth reserved for fire according to the scriptures, and the destruction of the ungodly.
 - The Lord is not slow about His promises.
 - The day of the Lord will come like a thief.
- we know that fire is reserved for this earth, for the wicked, and all these things will be destroyed in this way. (3:11)
- What sort of people ought we to be?
- * Holy conduct ← lives that are set apart from this world.

How many ways is fire used in the scriptures?

(2)

Short summary

1. For the sacrifice

2. the Lord manifests Himself in fire

- flaming bush (Exodus 3)

- pillar of fire (Exodus 13:21)

3. the Lord our God is a consuming fire... (Deut. 4:24, Hebrews 12:29)

4. God uses fire to purify (Num. 31:23)

5. God answers in fire

→ in judgment

• Sodom and Gomorrah (Genesis 19:24)

• Egypt: Fire mingled with hail (Exodus 9:24)

• Nadab & Avihu (Leviticus 10:1-2)

• Korah and his men (Numbers 16:35)

• Elijah and fire from Heaven (2 Kings 1)

→ His presence

• Elijah and prophets of Baal (1 Kings 18)
Fire consumed the

Hell (Gehenna)

6. Yeshua says in the judgment day depart from me you worker of iniquity (Matthew 23:41) into everlasting fire.

7. The Apostle Paul wrote in 2 Thessalonians 1, Yeshua would return in fire taking vengeance on those who do not know God and do not obey His Gospel. (1:8)

* In Yeshua the Messiah we do not need to fear the judgment of the Lord or that great day when it comes.

Psalms 17:3

(Hebrew)

"You have tried my heart; You have visited me by night; You have tested me and You find nothing; I have purposed that my mouth will not transgress."

(3)

(Aramaic Targum)

17:3 "You have tested my heart; You have visited my at night; you have purified me and not found corruption. If I have thought of evil, it has not crossed my lips."

- The rabbis translate "you have tested" and "you find nothing" to mean "you have purified me" and "not found corruption."

testing ↔ purifying (נִינְיָ)

- removing base metals from silver.

Questions

1. The Lord disciplines us because of sin, is this a form of judgment?
 2. Does judgment come in the form of natural disasters?
 3. The Lord does use nature to speak to His people and to nations. Why do you think we don't really hear much about that today?
→ modern science?
- David purposely chose to live his life based on God's word and choosing not to even speak evil.
 - Remaining in God's word has kept him from evil.

(9)

The apostle Paul spoke about how we should live our lives before God in 1 Thessalonians 4.

1 Thessalonians 4:1-18

- This is the will of God, Your sanctification... (4:3)
 - abstain from sexual immorality.
- God has not called us for the purpose of impurity (ritual impurity); but in sanctification. (4:7)
- He who rejects this is not rejecting man but God who gives His Holy Spirit to you. (4:8)
 - our bodies are the Temple of the Lord this leads back to the concept of ritual purity and all the things related to that concerning holiness and righteousness.

Questions

1. How does our sanctification that is in Christ relate to 1 Thess. 4:3?

- Paul is speaking about how we are to walk and please God.
- Paul says that "you are to excel still more in your walk before the Lord." (4:1)
- one of the most important aspects of our sanctification is to abstain from sexual immorality.

Proverbs 19:16 "He that keepeth the commandment keepeth his own soul; but he that despiseth his ways shall die." KJV

שׂוֹמֵר מִצְוֹתָי שׂוֹמֵר נַפְשׁוֹ

• Jewish thought on the commandments, they are not burdensome, they are opportunities to express our gratitude to God for the gift of life.

- the one who keeps the commandments guards his own life
- aligns one's soul with life, in the way of God.

• the word for despiseth is בִּזְיָה (Bozeh)

- means to accord little worth to something

* What can we say about this?

→ If we are heedless of our ways or unconcerned about the high calling of obedience then we are aligning our soul with error and the end thereof is death.

→ we have a duty to care about how we live our lives before God.

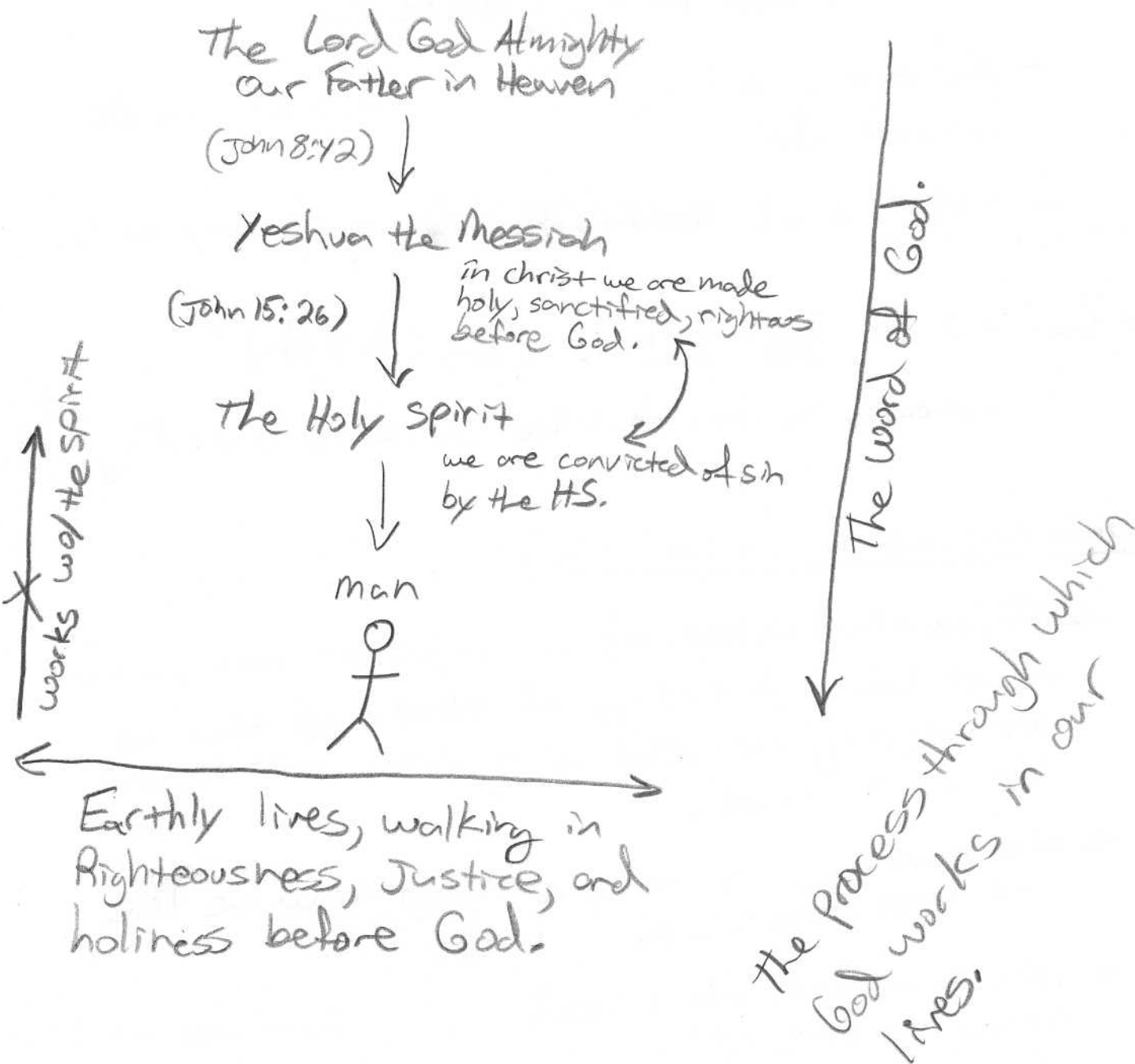
→ This is a form of wakefulness, where we consciously attend to our actions like David (psalms 17:3) in light of God's expressed will for our lives.

(Read section from Page 7 of study)

- The rabbis translate psalms 17:3 saying the Lord God made David clean (pure). How does God do this today?
 - we are sanctified in christ
 - we are also called to live sanctified lives

Question

Can these two be separated?



- If righteousness, justice, and holiness, obeying God is not going on in our lives then our relationship with God needs to be re-examined. ⑦

Psalms 17:5 "My steps have held fast to Your paths. My feet have not slipped." NASB

- our feet will hold fast and not slip when we take the appropriate steps to turn from sin, obey God, and seek forgiveness from the Lord by the power of the Holy Spirit in the Son Yeshua the Messiah.

in 1 Thessalonians 4, the Greek word ἀκαθαρσία (akatharsia) means "ritual uncleanness or defilement" (ἁγιασμοῦ)

- our bodies are the Temple of the H.S., in light of the Scriptures, how important is ritual purity today?

- why do you think this is not emphasized today?

1 Samuel 15:22 "Samuel said, Has the Lord as much delight in burnt offerings and sacrifices as in obeying the voice of the Lord? Behold to obey is better than sacrifices, to heed than the fat of Rams."

→ What does it mean to obey the voice of the Lord?

